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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/552,643

Applicant(s)

TAYLOR, STEVE D.

Examiner

MATTHEW J. BROPHY

Art Unit

2191

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 November 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 10-22 and 28-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 10-22 and 28-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the amendment filed November 11, 2009.
2. Claims 1-4, 10-22 and 28-32 are now pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-4, 10-22 and 28-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by 5,850,548 Williams et al hereinafter Williams.

Regarding Claim 1, Williams teaches: a method comprising:

Rendering on the display a first display container cell (e.g. **Column 9, Lines 14-26, "As illustrated in FIG. 5A, the Visual Development System 230 of the present invention includes a development interface or work surface 500. The work surface 500, in turn, includes a main window 501, a Component Inspector Window 520, a Component Manager Window 530, and a Library Window 540. The main window 501 includes a menu bar 505 and a tool bar 510. Menu bar 505 includes user-selectable menu choices for invoking operations of the system. Tool bar 510 includes an array of screen buttons for one-click access to system commands. Other windows on the work surface 500 (e.g., window 540) may register their own tools with the tool bar or palette 510, for providing users with access to those tools from the main window 501."**); rendering on the display a second display container cell nested within the first display container cell (e.g. **Column 10, Lines 26-49, "Components are nestable to an arbitrary depth within the visual programming editor. Any component which contains other components is known**

as a "SuperComponent"; a component which is contained is a "sub-component."

Nesting is illustrated in FIG. 6A. As previously described, Window1 (shown at 601) is manifested by Window object 610, at the level of the user interface. An additional element, such as an Edit box or Scroll bar, can be added to the window 610. For instance, a new component--VisualComponent2 shown at 620--may be placed within the first Visual Component, VisualComponent1."); and a first action cell nested within one of said first and second display container cells, the first action cell being performed in response to a user selection of the first action cell associated with causing at least a first action to be performed in association with or on behalf of at least one of a third display container cell and a fourth display container cell (e.g. Column 11, Lines 29-40, "The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g., by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting "New Property" menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as "Value" 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component.") the first second third and fourth display container cells being different display container cells. (Williams Abstract "and one or more visual editors. In operation, a user constructs a program by selecting one or more components from the Library, which displays components in a

tabbed palette. Using a visual editor of the system, the user may drill-down into the internals of a component, for modifying its logic. Once the functionality of a component is completed, the user may proceed to connect together various components via the component "ports", which allow access to properties of the component. Components of the system may be nested within other components to an arbitrary level.") *[Inherent in the display of "one or more components" is that, although not described with regards to the example seen in Williams, Williams invention provides for the display of an arbitrary number of different VisualComponents (i.e. 4 different display container cells).]*

Regarding Claim 2, Williams teaches: wherein the first display container cell is a selected one of a root region container cell and a nested region container cell (e.g. Column 11, Lines 16-28, "The example will continue with an illustration of how the user connects one component to another, such as connecting the Scroll bar 617 to the Edit Field (so that movement of the Slider causes information to appear in the Edit Field). As VisualComponent2 620 and VisualComponent3 625 appear in VisualComponent1 630, as shown in FIG. 6C, it is not evident exactly what is inside either one of the two components (i.e., the VisualComponent2 and the VisualComponent3 nested components). In other words, at this point the system has encapsulated the complexity of the nested components so that they do not manifest properties at this particular instance.").

Regarding Claim 3, Williams teaches: wherein the second display container cell is a display container cell selected from a display container cell group consisting of a nested region container cell, a nested zone container cell, and a nested action cell pool container cell (e.g. Column 11, Lines 16-28, “The example will continue with an illustration of how the user connects one component to another, such as connecting the Scroll bar 617 to the Edit Field (so that movement of the Slider causes information to appear in the Edit Field). As VisualComponent2 620 and VisualComponent3 625 appear in VisualComponent1 630, as shown in FIG. 6C, it is not evident exactly what is inside either one of the two components (i.e., the VisualComponent2 and the VisualComponent3 nested components). In other words, at this point the system has encapsulated the complexity of the nested components so that they do not manifest properties at this particular instance.”).

Regarding Claim 4, Williams teaches: wherein the fourth display container cell is nested in the third display container cell (e.g. Column 11, Lines 16-28, “The example will continue with an illustration of how the user connects one component to another, such as connecting the Scroll bar 617 to the Edit Field (so that movement of the Slider causes information to appear in the Edit Field). As VisualComponent2 620 and VisualComponent3 625 appear in VisualComponent1 630, as shown in FIG. 6C, it is not evident exactly what is inside either one of the two components (i.e., the VisualComponent2 and the VisualComponent3 nested components). In other words, at this point the system has encapsulated the complexity of the nested components so that they do not manifest properties at

this particular instance.” While this example of teaches 3 VisualComponents, it is inherent here that the could include several additional components, with multiple nesting of components).

Regarding Claim 10, Williams teaches: wherein the fourth display container cell is an invisible cell (e.g. Column 16, Lines 15-29, “The Edit class implements the **IControlServer methods 1020: ClientSet, ParentWindow, CreatedSet, VisibleSet, DesigningSet, DimensionSet, DimensionGet, and StateGet. These methods provide functionality typically associated with a screen control such as an Edit field. Their names describe their functionality. For instance, DimensionSet sets the dimensions for an Edit control, based on passed-in Values for starting Location (x, y), Width (dx) and Height (dy). Similarly, VisibleSet specifies whether the control is currently visible in the user interface (at runtime). This is the interface through which the parent window (i.e., container) interacts with the control, for example, creating it, turning its visibility on or off, sets its dimensions, or the like. When the user re-sizes the Edit control during design, the parent window in turn makes one or more DimensionSet calls.”).**

Regarding Claim 11, Williams teaches: wherein the first action cell is associated with causing a first action to be performed in association with or on behalf of both the third container cell and the fourth container cell (e.g. Column 11, Lines 29-40, “The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g.,

by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting "New Property" menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as "Value" 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component.").

Regarding Claim 12, Williams teaches: wherein the first action cell is further associated with causing a second action to be performed in association with or on behalf of at least one of the third and the fourth container cell (e.g. Column 11, Lines 29-40, "The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g., by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting "New Property" menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as "Value" 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component.").

Regarding Claim 13, Williams teaches: wherein the first action cell is further associated with causing a second action to be performed in association with or on behalf of at least one of the third and the fourth container cell (e.g. Column 11, Lines 29-40, "The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal

properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g., by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting "New Property" menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as "Value" 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component."').

Regarding Claim 14, Williams teaches: wherein the first action comprises performing an action selected from an action group consisting of adding a display container cell as a currently visible display contain cell among one or more other currently visible display container cell (e.g. Column 9, Line 59 to Column 10, Line 10, "Throughout the user session, the work surface 500 is always "live." For instance, the Component Inspector Window 520 is updated to display specific information about the currently selected component (i.e., Window Component 551). In particular, the Component Inspector displays information about the component's Name, Caption, Position, Height, and the like. The user can easily modify a property by clicking on the desired property (e.g., "Caption" field) and entering in a new Value. Since the work space is always live, the component whose property has changed is immediately updated to reflect the newly entered Value. Any modifications made directly to the component (e.g., resizing window 560) are, in turn, immediately reflected by the Component Inspector 520; also

shown, the Component Manager Window 530 is updated to display the new component, shown at 533. Since the system is always live, there is no "compile/link" cycle. Instead, properties and methods of components remain active at all times so that changes occurring in components take effect immediately. ") rendering a content, process a content (e.g. Column 11, Lines 29-40, "The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g., by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting "New Property" menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as "Value" 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component.") and causing a script to be executed (e.g. Column 13, Lines 18-42, "Referring now to FIGS. 9A-B, a Program Viewer of the present invention will be described. Super components are the system's controllers. They support program viewers, such as the program viewer 900 shown in FIG. 9A, as the main viewers of the system. The Program Viewer 900 provides facilities for editing programs, either in script or graphical (visual) programming format. The Viewer 900 has two principal regions: a structure pane 910 and a programming pane 920. All program viewers share the structure pane, which provides a representation of the structure of the project being edited. The

programming pane, on the other hand, contains the program itself, either in script (shown at 925) or visual programming (shown at 927) representation.”).

Regarding Claim 15, Williams teaches: wherein the first action comprises performing an action selected from an action group consisting of requesting a user action, requesting a local system action, and/or requesting a remote system action (e.g. column 4, Lines 40-45, “System 200 includes a user interface (UI) 240, preferably a graphical user interface (GUI), for receiving user commands and data. These inputs, in turn, may be acted upon by the system 100 in accordance with instructions from operating module 210, Windows 215, and/or application modules 220, 225. The UI 240 also serves to display the results of an operation, whereupon the user may supply additional inputs or terminate the session” or e.g. Column 11, Lines 29-40, “The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g., by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting “New Property” menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as “Value” 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component.” Or Column 13, Lines 12-17, “The system allows multiple viewers to be opened on each component, with the system maintaining synchronization between the

component and the various views. This is helpful in a multi-client environment, so that the program may be simultaneously edited from various machines. At all times, the end result of the work in progress appears on the screen of all clients.”).

Regarding Claim 16, Williams teaches: wherein said rendering of the first action cell is performed in view of a plurality of associated attributes of the first action cell defining the first action cell, the associated attributes, the first action cell, including attributes selected from a attribute group consisting of one or more structural attributes, one or more geometric attributes, one or more visual attributes, one or more policy attributes, and one or more behavior attributes (e.g. Column 11, Lines 29-40, “**The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g., by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting “New Property” menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as “Value” 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component.”).**

Regarding Claim 17, Williams teaches: further comprising performing by a computing device the first action in response to a user selection of the first action cell, and the action being an action select from an action group consisting of associating a

defining attribute with a display container cell, modifying a defining attribute associated with a display container cell, and deleting a defining attribute associated with a display container cell (e.g. **Column 11, Lines 29-40, "The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g., by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting "New Property" menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as "Value" 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component."**).

Regarding Claim 18, Williams teaches: w further comprising performing by a computing device the first action in response to a user selection of the first action cell, and the action being an action select from an action selected from an action group consisting of adding one or more cells to the EUI, and deleting one or more cells from the EUI (e.g. **Column 9, Line 59 to Column 10, Line 10, "Throughout the user session, the work surface 500 is always "live." For instance, the Component Inspector Window 520 is updated to display specific information about the currently selected component (i.e., Window Component 551). In particular, the Component Inspector displays information about the component's Name, Caption, Position, Height, and the like. The user can easily modify a property by**

clicking on the desired property (e.g., "Caption" field) and entering in a new Value. Since the work space is always live, the component whose property has changed is immediately updated to reflect the newly entered Value. Any modifications made directly to the component (e.g., resizing window 560) are, in turn, immediately reflected by the Component Inspector 520; also shown, the Component Manager Window 530 is updated to display the new component, shown at 533. Since the system is always live, there is no "compile/link" cycle. Instead, properties and methods of components remain active at all times so that changes occurring in components take effect immediately. ").

Regarding Claim 19, Williams teaches: wherein the first action is conditioned at least in part on one or more attributes of one or more of the display container cells within which the first action cell is nested (e.g. Column 11, Lines 29-40, "The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g., by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting "New Property" menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as "Value" 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component.").

Regarding Claim 20, Williams teaches: wherein the first action is conditioned at least in part on one or more state values or policy attributes and the state values and policy attributes are associated with a display container cell that is separate from the first, second third and fourth display container cells.(e.g. Column 7, Lines 29-42, **“Some components have more than one type of behavior and may reside in more than one hierarchy of objects. Conventional graphical user interface elements, such as screen buttons and the like, appear as simple, static rectangles in a “Logic View” of the program. In a “User Interface View,” on the other hand, objects are shown having a more complex appearance (e.g., a push button or a spread sheet). The hierarchical location of controls in a window (i.e., inside child windows and group boxes) may have little or no bearing on their location in the Logic View. State diagrams may be constructed where the states and events correspond to components in the Logic View. The hierarchical structure of events and states in a state diagram do not necessarily appear in the same way in the Logic View.”**) see also (Col 11, Ln 41-53, **“As shown in FIG. 6E, for instance, by selecting VisualComponent3 625 and requesting property inspection, such as “right-clicking” it, the system displays pop-up menu 626. As shown, the pop-up menu 626 includes a “Show Property” selection which brings up a sub-menu having a “Value” choice 627 (which corresponds to Value property 655). As shown in FIG. 6F, VisualComponent3 625 includes Value box 628--a visual representation of the “Value” property of VisualComponent3. At this instance in the example, the Value property of VisualComponent3 is not “connected” to anything; it is essentially**

"free floating." Next, the steps for connecting the Value property will be described in detail.")

Regarding Claim 21, Williams teaches: wherein the first action associated with the first action cell is an action to be performed in response to a structural exception event involving the at least one of the fourth and fifth display container cells (**Column 10, Lines 26-49, "Components are nestable to an arbitrary depth within the visual programming editor. Any component which contains other components is known as a "SuperComponent"; a component which is contained is a "sub-component." Nesting is illustrated in FIG. 6A. As previously described, Window1 (shown at 601) is manifested by Window object 610, at the level of the user interface. An additional element, such as an Edit box or Scroll bar, can be added to the window 610. For instance, a new component--VisualComponent2 shown at 620--may be placed within the first Visual Component, VisualComponent1. In a manner similar to before, the user can then proceed to create Edit Field 615, by selecting Edit Component 611 from the Library Palette. The act of creating Edit Field 615 causes the Edit Field to appear within the window 610. Thus, VisualComponent2 is a "sub-component" of VisualComponent1--that is, it is a component nested within VisualComponent1. Moreover, the act of creating VisualComponent2 within the VisualComponent1 window causes it (i.e., the Edit Field) to represent itself within the Window object 610, which is the visual component corresponding to Window1**

601. Thus as shown, Edit Field 615 appears within the boundaries of Window 610.”0.

Regarding Claim 22, Williams teaches: wherein the EUI further comprises a second action cell associated with causing at least a second action to be performed in association with or on behalf of one or more nested container cells (e.g. **Column 11, Lines 29-40, “The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g., by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting “New Property” menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as “Value” 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component.”**).

Regarding Claim 28, Williams teaches: A system comprising: a processor (**Column 4, Lines 25-26, “The present invention may be embodied on a computer system such as the system 100 of FIG. 1, which includes a central processor 101,”**); a display coupled to the processor (**Column 4, Lines 30, “a display device 106”**); and storage coupled to the processor (**Column 4, Lines 31-32, “and a non-volatile or mass storage 107 (e.g., hard or fixed disk, optical disk, magneto-optical disk, or flash memory).”**, and having stored therein instructions designed implement an end user interface for the system, the end user interface having a first display container cell

(e.g. Column 9, Lines 14-26, "As illustrated in FIG. 5A, the Visual Development System 230 of the present invention includes a development interface or work surface 500. The work surface 500, in turn, includes a main window 501, a Component Inspector Window 520, a Component Manager Window 530, and a Library Window 540. The main window 501 includes a menu bar 505 and a tool bar 510. Menu bar 505 includes user-selectable menu choices for invoking operations of the system. Tool bar 510 includes an array of screen buttons for one-click access to system commands. Other windows on the work surface 500 (e.g., window 540) may register their own tools with the tool bar or palette 510, for providing users with access to those tools from the main window 501."); a second display container cell nested within the first display container cell (e.g. Column 10, Lines 26-49, "Components are nestable to an arbitrary depth within the visual programming editor. Any component which contains other components is known as a "SuperComponent"; a component which is contained is a "sub-component." Nesting is illustrated in FIG. 6A. As previously described, Window1 (shown at 601) is manifested by Window object 610, at the level of the user interface. An additional element, such as an Edit box or Scroll bar, can be added to the window 610. For instance, a new component--VisualComponent2 shown at 620--may be placed within the first Visual Component, VisualComponent1."); and a first action cell nested within one of said first and second display container cells, the first action cell to be associated with causing at least a first action to be performed in response to a user selection of the first action cell in association with or on behalf of at least one of a

third container cell and a fourth container cell (e.g. Column 11, Lines 29-40, "The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g., by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting "New Property" menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as "Value" 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component.") the first second third and fourth display container cells being different display container cells. (Williams Abstract "and one or more visual editors. In operation, a user constructs a program by selecting one or more components from the Library, which displays components in a tabbed palette. Using a visual editor of the system, the user may drill-down into the internals of a component, for modifying its logic. Once the functionality of a component is completed, the user may proceed to connect together various components via the component "ports", which allow access to properties of the component. Components of the system may be nested within other components to an arbitrary level.") *[Inherent in the display of "one or more components" is that, although not described with regards to the example seen in Williams, Williams invention provides for the display of an arbitrary number of different VisualComponents (i.e. 4 different display container cells).]*

Regarding Claim 29, Williams teaches: wherein the method further comprises performing the action in response to a user selection of the first action cell, and the action being an action selected from an action group consisting of adding a display container cell as a currently visible display contain cell among one or more other currently visible display container cell, rendering a content, process a content and causing a script to be executed (e.g. Column 11, Lines 29-40, **"The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g., by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting "New Property" menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as "Value" 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component."..**

Regarding Claim 30, Williams teaches: wherein the method further comprises performing the action in response to a user selection of the action cell, and the action being an action selected from an action group consisting of associating one or more defining attributes with a display container cell, modifying one or more defining

attributes associated with a display container cell, deleting one or more defining attributes associated with a display container cell, adding one or more cells to the EUI, and deleting one or more cells from the EUI (e.g. Column 11, Lines 29-40, "The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g., by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting "New Property" menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as "Value" 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component.").

Regarding Claim 31, Williams teaches: wherein the first action is conditioned at least in part on the one or more state values or policy attributes and the state values and policy attributes are associated with a display container cell that is separate and distinct from the first, second third and fourth display container cells. (Col 11, Ln 41-53, "As shown in FIG. 6E, for instance, by selecting VisualComponent3 625 and requesting property inspection, such as "right-clicking" it, the system displays pop-up menu 626. As shown, the pop-up menu 626 includes a "Show Property" selection which brings up a sub-menu having a "Value" choice 627 (which corresponds to Value property 655). As shown in FIG. 6F, VisualComponent3 625 includes Value box 628--a visual representation of the "Value" property of VisualComponent3. At this instance in the example, the Value property of VisualComponent3 is not "connected" to anything;

it is essentially "free floating." Next, the steps for connecting the Value property will be described in detail.")

Regarding Claim 32, Williams teaches: wherein the EUI further comprises a second action cell associated with causing at least a second action to be performed in association with or on behalf of one or more nested container cells (e.g. Column 11, Lines 29-40, "The user accesses the VisualComponent3 (i.e., access to its internal properties) by adding a new property to the component, as shown in FIG. 6C. The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g., by right-clicking on it with a mouse cursor). In response, the system displays pop-up menu 652. The user may instruct the system to create a new property by selecting "New Property" menu choice 653. The system, in response, displays a Property Object 654, as shown in FIG. 6D. Here, the user can type in a New Property, such as "Value" 655. Now, Value 655 is a property which may be accessed from outside the component.").

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed November 11, 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In Remarks, Applicant argues:

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102 In the subject action, the Examiner maintained the rejections against Claims 1-4, 10-22 and 28-32 under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,850,548 to Williams (hereinafter, Williams). In response, Applicant thanks the Examiner for detailed action and response to arguments, but respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections. In the last response, Applicant argued

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that Williams failed to clearly teach at least the recitations "the first action cell being associated with causing at least a first action to be performed in association with or on behalf of at least one of a third display container cell and a fourth display container cell, the first action being performed in response to a user selection of the first action cell, and the first, second, third and fourth display container cells being different display container cells." Applicants specifically argued that ...[internal quotation omitted.]

Applicant agrees with the Examiner that the Examiner may give claims their broadest reasonable interpretation. However, that is not the issue here. The issue here is, for § 102 rejections, the law requires the relied reference to clearly and unambiguously teach what is being claimed. The Examiner admitted in the response to arguments, the office action "gave an example (paraphrased)." And that the "example" is "not definition of the selection technique in William anticipates the selection of an action cell described by the independent claims." However, without specific citation what the Examiner considered as the definition of William's selection technique, Applicant is unable to respond to that. Therefore, Applicant can only respond to the cited "example." With respect to the specific "example" passage cited by the examiner, which says "The user requests property inspection of the Slider 651 which appears in the visual editor 650 (e.g. by right-clicking on/t..." There is no ambiguity that the pronoun "it" refers to the visual editor 650. So if the right click on visual editor 650 is to be interpreted as reading on the recited phrase of "user selection of the first action cell." Then, the inescapable conclusion is the examiner is attempting to read visual editor 650 as "the first action cell." But the alleged "action cell" visual editor 650 is the window in focus, on top of the "library" window, the "visual component 1" window and the window containing the element "Edit1 ." Alleged "action cell" visual editor 650 is not an element nested in anything, let alone meeting the recitation of "a first action cell nested within one of said first and second display container cells" where "second display container cell > nested within the first display container cell." Further the effect of the right click on alleged "action cell" visual editor 650 is the display of pop up 652 within visual editor 650. Therefore, the effect of the selection of the alleged "action cell" visual editor 650 is modification of the alleged "action cell" visual editor 650 itself, and not "... associated or on behalf of at least one of a third display container cell and a fourth display container cell "where the third and fourth display container cells are different from the first and second container cells, where the action cell is nested.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the specific passages provided by the Examiner to support his position simply does not meet the requirements of the law for § 102 rejections. Once again, claim 1 clearly recites a method for providing an user interface on a display that requires

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"a first action cell nested within one of said first and second display container cells," where "second display container cell nested within the first display container cell," where "the first action cell associated with causing at least a first action to be performed in association with or on behalf of at least one of a third display container cell and a fourth display container cell, where the third or fourth display container cell, on which or on behalf the action is to be performed is different from the first or second display container cell where the action cell is nested. So claim 1 clearly recites five elements, first action cell, first, second, third and fourth display container cells. Further claim 1 recites disposition relationships between the first action cell and the first and second display container cells, as well as functional relationships between the first action cell and the third and fourth display container cells (which are different from the first or second display container cell where the first action cell is nested). If the Examiner is to maintain the rejections again, Applicant would very much appreciate the Examiner identifying 5 similar elements in Williams, A, B, C, D and E, where A is of a first type (action cell), and B, C, D, and E are of another type (display container cells), where A has disposition relationships to B and C, as well as having functional relationships with D and E.

Without that, Applicant respectfully submits Williams does not clearly and unambiguously teaches the inventive method of claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over Williams under § 102(b). Amended claim 28 includes recitations similar to those of amended claim 1. Accordingly, for at least similar reasons, claim 28 is patentable over Williams. Claims 2-4, 10-22, and 29-32 depend from either claim 1 or 28, incorporating their recitations. Thus, for at least the same reasons, claims 2-4, 10-22, and 29-32 are patentable over Williams.

Examiner's Response:

Examiner respectfully disagrees. With regards to the "definition" applicant argues, as stated previously, Williams provides a teaching of a visual programming environment that includes the possibility of a large number of visual display elements including visual components to be coded, menus and toolbars, and Display Windows. Because Williams provides display elements which can be selected to carry out actions on other display elements, Williams provides a large number of possible readings onto the claims at

hand, in FIGs 5A-8F which illustrate the user interface of the design environment. With Regards to applicant's request to lay out the example using Characters A-E, The examiner will attempt to do so herein. It should be noted that characterization of this request is not congruent with the Claim limitations ("A has disposition relationships to B and C " vs. "first action cell nested within *one of* said first and second display container cells" "functional relationships with D and E" vs. "...on be have of *at least one of* a third display container cell and a fourth display container cell"). Nevertheless, in so much as A-E align with the action cell and first through fourth display container cells, The examiner suggests, *as an example*, FIG. 5B, where, in applicant's proscribed labeling, A=545, B=540, C=543, D=550 and E=560. That is, the UI palette 543(2nd Display Cell) nested within the Library window (1st Display Cell) has The Window Button 545 (First Action Cell) which, upon user selection, Creates Window 551 within Component 550 (3rd Display Cell) which is next to Window 560 (Fourth Display Container Cell). (See Further Col. 9, Ln 40-67.) This example is intended to be illustrative, not definitive, of the possible interpretation of the claims as written with regards to the different elements of Williams. The Applicant is invited to call the examiner and schedule an interview to discuss any further confusion.

Conclusion

3. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MATTHEW J. BROPHY whose telephone number is 571-270-1642. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00AM-5:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wei Zhen can be reached on (571) 272-3708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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MJB

2/10/2010

/Anna Deng/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2191